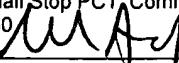


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(Signature of person mailing correspondence)

Mark A. Hixon

(Typed name of person mailing correspondence)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:] Group Art Unit:
EUGEN LEOPOLD]
] Examiner:
Filing Under 35 USC 371 in DO/EO/US of]
PCT/EP2005/000367 filed 15 January 2005]
] Attorney Docket 1-17498
For: REDUCTION OF BIURET AND FREE]
AMMONIA DURING A METHOD]
FOR PRODUCING FERTILIZER]
GRANULATES CONTAINING UREA]

August 2, 2006

Mail Stop PCT
Commissioner for Patents
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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Sir:

Prior to the first Office Action and before examination, please amend the application being filed concurrently herewith under 35 U.S.C. 371 as follows: